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COVID-19 Personal Reflection

Betsy Flynn Drake

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I am Betsy Drake. Yes, this has been a challenge for us! My husband Jack and myself normally spend the winters in Myrtle Beach, SC and we had been there since soon after Thanksgiving last year! The presence of the Covid-19 virus in Asia, etc., was certainly a reason for concern but we were there and all settled in! By March we were very aware that the virus was creeping into SC, however, not near us! We started to think we should change our plans, which would normally be to return home the first week in May. When the first two cases of the virus landed in the local major hospital complex, only 6 blocks from us, we decided to come home and quickly! Unfortunately when I went to the local drugstore they all had no masks or gloves and said none would be available! This was alarming but fortunately we both had our winter gloves so they were put onto use!! The trip home was uneventful, had two overnights and stayed in Hampton Inns! The traffic was very light and we found the hotel not full at all and they was no evidence of coughing or sneezing but we still used precautions due to our ages! The hotels had disposable gloves, which was a huge comfort!! We noted that the other travelers were also our ages and headed north! We also choose to travel away from heavily populated areas, which proved to be a good decision! We have not contracted the virus!!

We arrived home on March 21st and stopped for groceries and then isolated for two weeks before I went out for other supplies! ! We both have been using masks and gloves as well as hand sanitizer and we are continuing to do the same to this day!! We are staying at home and have been visiting with our four children and their families on FaceTime! This is certainly a very sad and frightening time but we are busy at home making the most of the situation! We appreciate and regret all the hardships that others are suffering, with loss of employment and also the stress of home schooling! We are blessed that our younger family members have worked out great systems of home schooling and we are very proud of them! We feel the presence of the virus will be with us for months and will continue to follow the guidelines of our government officials! We are particular grateful for the many health providers in all areas that are in the front lines everyday! They are heroes in our eyes! We feel we will great through this sad time and we will persevere!

Thank you for asking me to participate with my thoughts in this historical time! I'm hoping this is something you will find useful! Please stay safe!

Elizabeth (Betsy) Flynn Drake '61

Sent from my iPad